

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE: KSC-01-23

National Environmental Policy Act: John F. Kennedy Space Center, Kennedy Space Center (KSC), Florida

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

ACTION: Availability of the Roberts Road SpaceX Operations Area Expansion & Supporting Infrastructure Draft Environmental Assessment (EA), KSC, Florida

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States Code 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA; 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §1500–1508; and NASA policy and procedures, (14 CFR §1216.3), NASA has prepared and issued a supplemental Draft EA for the expansion of the SpaceX Operational area located on Roberts Road at KSC. The purpose of the proposed action is Action is to increase the capabilities, efficiency, and cost effectiveness of SpaceX’s production and launch support operations in Brevard County, Florida. The Proposed Action is consistent with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Interim Directive 8600.121 and KSC’s 2020 Vision Plan.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on environmental concerns on or before October 16, 2023 or 30 days from the date of this notice publication, whichever is later.

ADDRESSES: Address written comments or questions to:

Mr. Donald Dankert
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The Draft EA is available in Acrobat® format at:
<https://public.ksc.nasa.gov/environmental/nepacomments/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

The Draft EA evaluated the potential environmental impacts associated with the No Action Alternative, Alternative 1, and the Proposed Action, and include the following resources categories: transportation, utilities, air quality, natural and biological resources (habitat and non-listed wildlife species), threatened and endangered wildlife species, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazardous materials, climate, noise, water resources, and socioeconomics.

SpaceX proposes to expand its Roberts Road Operations Area, upgrade the utilities, and widen Saturn Causeway to support vehicle transport to and from launch facilities. Under the Proposed Action, SpaceX would expand the Roberts Road Operations Area by 100 acres immediately north of the existing site. Development would include additional office space and facilities in support of vehicle and payload processing, fabrication, storage, manufacturing, and shipping and receiving. The total footprint of facilities would not exceed 1.5 million square feet and facility height would not exceed approximately 400 feet. Upgraded utilities at the site include new underground electrical feeder lines, fiber communication connectivity, water, and wastewater. SpaceX would also construct improvements to the intersection of Kennedy Parkway and Roberts Road, if needed, as the site develops to maintain acceptable traffic conditions.

Saturn Causeway would be widened approximately eight feet from the Vehicle Assembly Building to Phillips Parkway and drainage swales would be improved and a new electrical duct bank is proposed within the roadway footprint to support operations at Launch Complex 39A.